

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 14, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 18, 2006

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1747**

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**Introduced by Senator Bowen**

February 24, 2006

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An act to amend Section 15004 of the Elections Code, relating to vote counts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1747, as amended, Bowen. Elections: counting votes.

~~Existing law requires the Secretary of State to, among other things, establish a statewide system to facilitate the removal of duplicate or prior voter registrations, to approve voting systems, to facilitate the reporting of election results and voter and candidate information, and to administer and enhance election administration.~~

Existing law also provides that the county central committee of each qualified political party may employ and may have present at the central counting place or places, not more than 2 qualified data processing specialists or engineers to check and review, among other things, the preparation and operation of the tabulating devices, and be in attendance at any or all phases of an election.

This bill would ~~additionally~~ *instead* authorize *each qualified political party and* any bona fide association of citizens or a media organization to employ not more than 2 ~~qualified data processing specialists or engineers~~ *representatives* to also be present as specified ~~above~~ *at the central counting place or places*. The bill would also authorize the county elections official to limit the total number of ~~specialists or engineers~~ *representatives* to no more than 10, as specified, and would require the Secretary of State to adopt

~~regulations to define “qualified data processing specialist or engineer.”.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~*no*.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 15004 of the Elections Code is  
2 amended to read:

3 15004. (a) ~~The county central committee of each~~ *Each*  
4 qualified political party may employ, and may have present at the  
5 central counting place or places, not more than two ~~qualified data~~  
6 ~~processing specialists or engineers~~ *representatives* to check and  
7 review the preparation and operation of the tabulating devices,  
8 their programming and testing, and have the ~~specialists or~~  
9 ~~engineers~~ *representatives* in attendance at any or all phases of the  
10 election.

11 (b) Any bona fide association of citizens or a media  
12 organization may employ, and may have present at the central  
13 counting place or places, not more than two ~~qualified data~~  
14 ~~processing specialists or engineers~~ *representatives* to check and  
15 review the preparation and operation of the tabulating devices,  
16 their programming and testing, and have the ~~specialists or~~  
17 ~~engineers~~ *representatives* in attendance at any or all phases of the  
18 election.

19 (c) The county elections official may limit the total number of  
20 ~~specialists or engineers~~ *representatives* employed pursuant to  
21 subdivision (b) in attendance to no more than 10 by a manner in  
22 which each interested bona fide association of citizens or media  
23 organization has an equal opportunity to participate. Any  
24 ~~specialists or engineer~~ *representatives* employed and in  
25 attendance pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be subject to the  
26 limit specified in this subdivision.

27 ~~(d) The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations that define~~  
28 ~~“qualified data processing specialist or engineer” for purposes of~~  
29 ~~this section.~~

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